1
A PERFECT DAY FOR
LOVE LETTERS
George Asakura

Letter 1

Love Letters in the Library

A PERFECT DAY FOR LOVE LETTERS 1

Letter 1 LOVE LETTERS IN THE LIBRARY
PREVIOUS TITLE "THE GIRL WHO READS A BOOK"

Letter 2 TO ONE WHO DOESN'T KNOW ME

Letter 3 FLOWERS BLOOMING IN THE SNOW

Letter 4 LOVE LETTER PANIC

Letter 5 THE MAILMAN'S LOVE

GEORGE ASAKURA

KODANSHA COMICS BETSUFURE

SNOW...
RIRIKO!!
AH
I'M SORRY
EH?
FORGET THAT! THE HEATER'S BROKEN, NO ONE'S GONNA BE GOING THERE
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA
EH?
SORRY, I CAN'T TODAY IT'S MY TURN TO BE ON LIBRARY DUTY
AH...
LET'S GO TO THE BAKERY IN FRONT OF THE STATION! EVERYTHING'S 50% OFF!

YOU ARE LIKE SNOW
YOU MAKE ME WHITE AND COLD
THEN YOU MAKE ME FREEZE
YOU ARE SNOW

ANOTHER DAY
THE LIBRARY IS EMPTY AGAIN.
WELL..
.. WHAT SHOULD I READ ..?
I'LL PICK THIS ONE.
HMM..
LET'S SEE
HUH?
I CHERISH THE TIME I SPEND READING BOOKS IN HERE.
A SPERM-KUN COULDN'T EVEN PIERCE THIS HEAD!
MORE LIKE KATSUO'S!
NO WAY! YOUR HAIR DOESN'T LOOK LIKE HIROYUKI IKEUCHI!
ギャはは
HA HA HA HA HA
THIRD PROBLEM
HE SURE IS RUDE.
EMOTO IS SAYING WEIRD THINGS AGAIN.
I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT OUR LIBRARY IS IN A BUILDING SEPARATED FROM THE OTHER'S.
I DECIDED I WANTED TO BE A LIBRARIAN HERE WHEN I SAW THE ENTRANCE ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.

"From now on, I've decided to read more books, like you do."
"You were so beautiful in the library reading your book, you looked like you didn't wish to be disturbed."
"But I want to get to know you in your world."
"I'm keeping this a secret."

ARE THESE RETURNS?
THEY JUST LEFT THEM HERE!?
AND THEY'RE NEXT TO THE BOOK I WAS READING THE OTHER DAY.
PA PA PA PA PA
TO ME?
NO SENDER'S NAME..
AND NO NAME ON THE RETURN CARD..
FWIP
Takase Ririko
"Takase Ririko-sama"
RFFL

I CAN'T STAND EMOTO
IT GETS SO CARRIED AWAY. HE IS AN IDIOT AND A JERK AND...
BUT (THAT'S WHY?) EVERYONE FORGIVES HIM SO EASILY
AND UNFORTUNATELY, HE KNOWS IT.
WHAT'S THAT ABOUT HIM?
"OH, REALLY?"
HUH?
WHAT DID YOU TELL HIM?
IT DOESN'T MATTER. I'VE ALREADY TALKED WITH EMOTO-KUN
"EH?"
I TOLD HIM HE DOESN'T HAVE TO COME.
IT'S MY RESPONSIBILITY.
I'M MORE COMFORTABLE WHEN I'M BY MYSELF.
THE CAKE WAS REALLY GOOD!
I HAD THREE PIECES.
YOU SHOULD HAVE COME!
EH?
RIRIKO!
GOOD MORNING.
YEAH. YOU LOOK FATTER THAN YESTERDAY
THEY WERE ALL SO FUNNY!
WEREN'T THEY?
EMOTO AND HIS FRIENDS CAME TOO
THEY ATE SEVEN PIECES!
CAN'T YOU COME NEXT TIME? THERE'S ANOTHER LIBRARIAN IN OUR CLASS, ISN'T THERE? LET HIM FILL IN.
HMM...
RIRIKO, WHAT'S WRONG?
OH, NOTHING.
HE'S TOO IRRESPONSIBLE, ISN'T HE?
HA HA HA
REALLY?!?
"EVERYBODY JUST LAUGH AND FORGIVE ME ♪"
WHO?
IIDA-KUN?
HE'S PRESENTING! WHY HE IS SO LAZY
ALSO, HE WAS LAST SEMESTER. IT'S EMOTO'S TURN NOW
I GOT A LOVE LETTER...
...FOR THE FIRST TIME

WHERE?
WHERE ARE YOU?
"Do you feel disgusted with me?"
HUHP
"I can't come close to you and I don't have the nerve to tell you my name... So I want to see you reading my letter. That's very natural and healthy, isn't it?"
ポロリ
FFT
THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE IN THE ENVELOPE

あはは!
HA HA HA
AND THEN...
THE OTHER NO DAY-WAY!
I CAN'T STAND IT WHEN THAT KIND OF PERSON COMES INTO THE LIBRARY
WOW.
"Takase Ririko-sama— I read another book. Did you read my letter?"
I GOT ANOTHER LOVE LETTER...?
"Actually, the truth is, I was watching you while you read it."

"Why did you give me this pink frog? Does it have a special meaning? Also, is there a book you would like to recommend for me to read?"

"From Ririko Takase"

I HOPE HE WRITES BACK.

"Who are you?"

I WANTED TO WRITE BUT I COULDN'T

REALLY?

AHH! MOTOKO'S THE TERMINATION DAY??

"That shocking-pink frog is my image of the book I just read. It's kind of a description of my impressions."

RUB

WHO COULD IT BE?

AIRPORT PAPER

I WONDER WHAT HE'S LIKE.

HN

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

THAT'S WEIRD.

HE MUST BE FUNNY

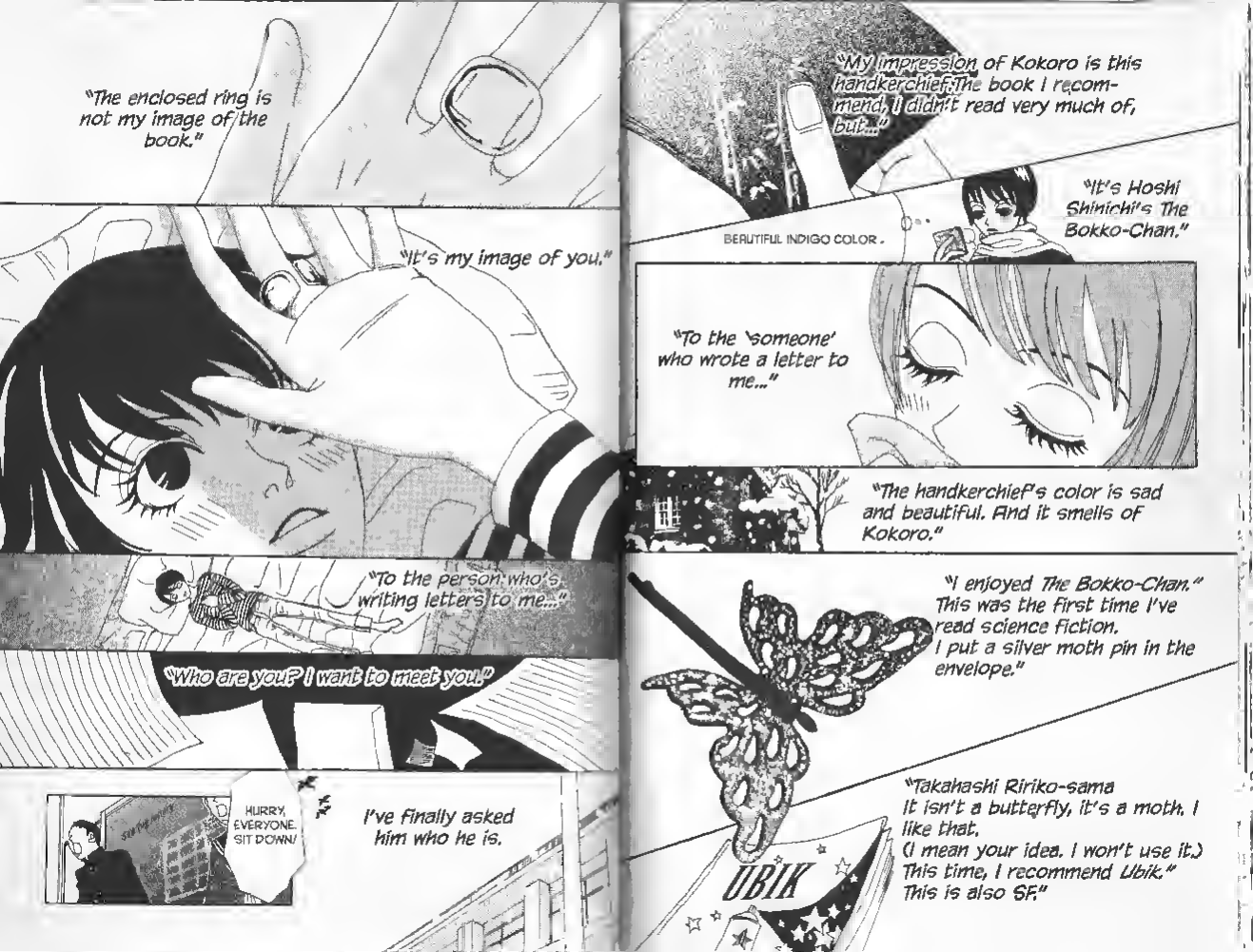
A SHOCKING-PINK FROG??

"To the person who gave me the letters..."

"Thank you for writing them.

I have some questions for you so I put this in a book and returned it to the bookshelf. Please read it."

"You're somewhere watching me, so you'll find this, right?"

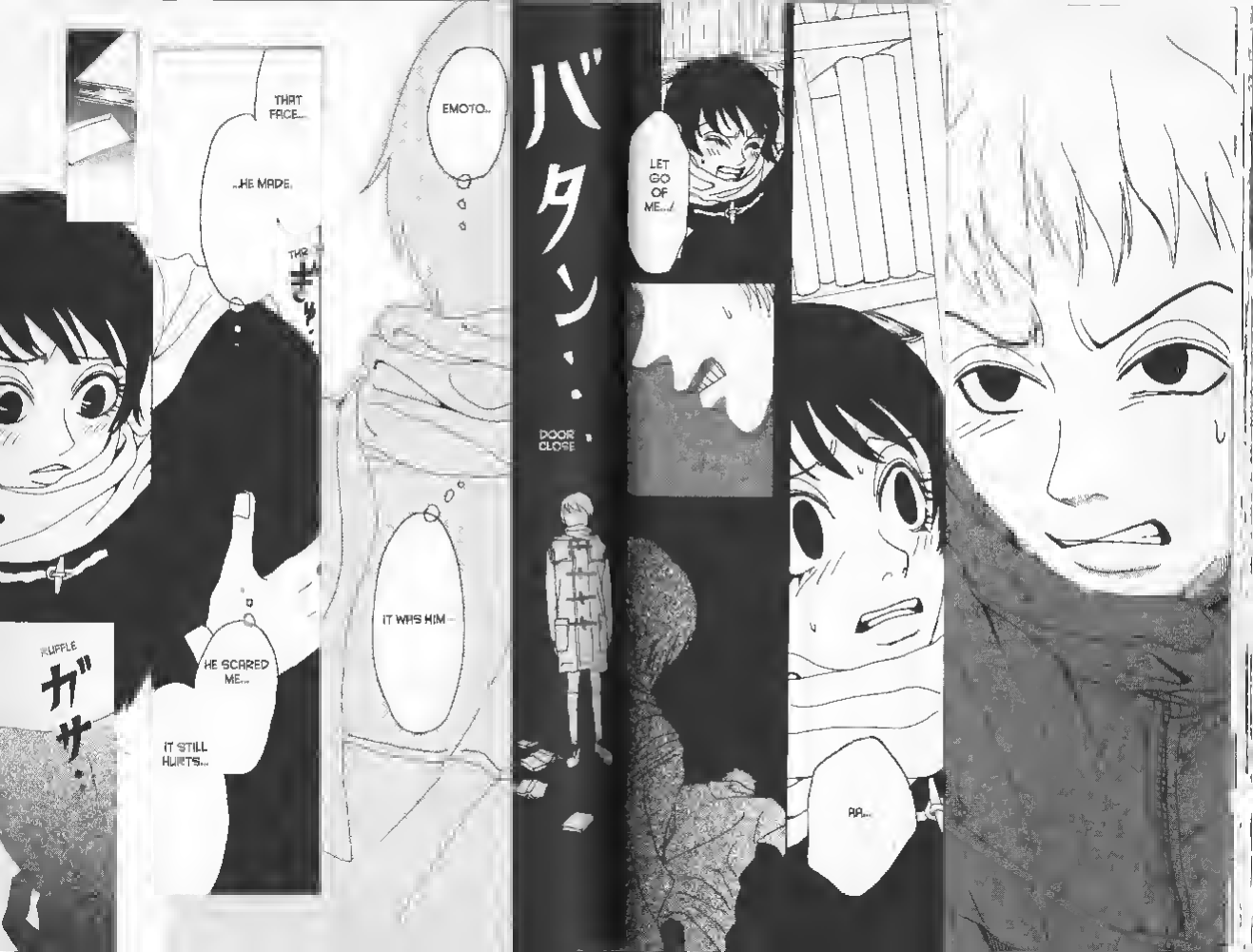

"The enclosed ring is not my image of the book."
"It's my image of you."
"To the person who's writing letters to me..."
"Who are you? I want to meet you."
HURRY, EVERYONE, SIT DOWN!
I've finally asked him who he is.
"My impression of Kokoro is this handkerchief. The book I recommend, I didn't read very much of, but..."
"It's Hoshi Shinichi's The Bokko-Chan."
BEAUTIFUL INDIGO COLOR.
"To the 'someone' who wrote a letter to me..."
"The handkerchief's color is sad and beautiful. And it smells of Kokoro."
"I enjoyed The Bokko-Chan." This was the first time I've read science fiction. I put a silver moth pin in the envelope."
"Takahashi Ririko-sama It isn't a butterfly, it's a moth. I like that. (I mean your idea. I won't use it.) This time, I recommend Ubik." This is also SF."
UBIK

SLIDE
BE-CAUSE
I THOUGHT YOU WERE MORE SERIOUS.
EH?
I'LL SWITCH SEATS WITH YOU.
WHY DO YOU TAKE CARE OF THE LIBRARY ALL BY YOUR-SELF?
WHAT LUCK!
PEOPLE LIKE YOU...
YOU FRUSTRATE ME..
MAKE ME ILL!!

THERE'S SOMEONE NEXT TO ME!
YOU'RE IN THE FIRST ROW!?
I'LL BE ALL THE WAY IN THE BACK.
I'LL BE RIGHT!
A THERE'S SOME ROTTEN BREAD IN HERE!
SLIDE
NOW I'LL BE ABLE TO READ BOOKS DURING CLASS.
COME ON MY SEAT'S IN THE FRONT!
IT'LL DO YOU SOME GOOD, SPERM-KUN!
STOP CALLING ME THAT!
EMOTO, SWITCH SEATS WITH ME...?
OH, GREAT
AH
NOTHING
WHAT!?

I'LL THINK POSITIVE...
I WISH..
HE WOULD COME...
FOOT PRINTS
ZHAR
OPEN
DASH
FOOTSTEPS

GRAB
WHY DO YOU...
HA HA
HA
YOU'RE JUST PLAYING, AREN'T YOU?
YOU WERE JUST TEASING ME...
YOU'RE DISGUSTING...
AHH!
...HATE ME SO MUCH...!?
IT..
HUH...
IT'S YOU. ..!?


THAT FACE...
..HE MADE..
EMOTO..
KUPPLE
ガサ
HE SCARED ME...
IT STILL HURTS...
IT WAS HIM
バタン
DOOR CLOSE
LET GO OF ME.../
AH...

W..
WAIT/
WAIT/
KLIP KLIP
WAIT FOR ME....

You are like snow
You make me white and cold
Then you make me freeze
You are snow
I still want to be close to you...
I'm an idiot

SPLAT
WHY DID YOU DODGE IT?
!
THAT HURTS!
SPLAT
SPLAT
THUD
CRUNCH
OUCH!
SPLAT
WAIT A SECOND!
STOP IT!
WHACK
WHA...!
WAIT!
I TOLD YOU TO...!
AH!
FOOH!

I WAS HAPPY
B, BUT...
–TO GET YOUR LETTERS
REALLY, I WAS...
UH...

NO MORE!
I HATE YOU...!
CRYING
YOU DISGUST ME!
YOU LIKE ME, DON'T YOU!? SO WHAT!
WELL YOU DISGUST ME!

YEAH..
GR HA HA HA
ぎゃはは
HAHAHA
うはは
THIS BOOK...
IS ALSO SE.
HERE!
SLAN
SLAN
SLAN
DO YOU WANT TO READ IT?

Letter 1 LOVE LETTERS IN THE LIBRARY

Letter 2 [illegible]

Letter 3 [illegible]

Letter 4 [illegible]

Letter 5 THE MERMAN'S LOVE

DING
DING
DING
DING
AGAIN?
HUH.
HUH...
WHERE IS AYAKO?
ROOF-TOP-NO ADMIT TANCE
SHE WENT TO THE NURSE'S OFFICE.
SHE WANTED TO SLEEP

WHY DOES HE WANT THAT?
IS HE TRYING TO SCARE US?
HIS TATTOO IS BIGGER THAN IT WAS BEFORE, ISN'T IT?
I ALSO HEARD A RUMOR THAT HE VIDEOTAPES GIRLS AND THEN SELLS THEM.
THEY'RE JUST FREJU DICED
IS HE SELLING DRUGS AROUND HERE?
WELL, MARIKO TOLD ME..
THAT HE'S A DRUG DEALER
SCARY!
DING
DING
DING
DING

Letter 2

To One Who Doesn't Know Me

"I just wanted you to know that."
"Masumura Yasushi"
DID YOU REALLY WRITE THIS LETTER?
WOW.
WHAT A PURE HEART YOU'VE GOT.
I'M TOUCHED
I'VE NEVER BEEN IN LOVE WITH ANYONE BEFORE
SO I'VE NEVER REALLY KNOWN WHAT A MAN'S PURE HEART IS LIKE.
(ESPECIALLY NOT MASUMURA'S/)

"I walked past you the other day and you called out to me.
But, I ignored you, and that was rude."
RUFFLE
"Katase Rino-sama"
WAA
"You surprised me, and it made me very shy."
"I'm lazy, but the reason I became an election assistant is...
...I want to be close to you."
IT LOOKS AWFUL/
I'M HOT/
YOU'RE WEARING A TOWEL.
"I couldn't even say hello to you."
FWIP
"I couldn't say anything to you on graduation day, either."
"Even though I ignored you, you didn't change and kept saying hi to me.
It made me very happy."

EVEN IF I HID, MASUMURA DOESN'T KNOW WHO I AM.
NO... I JUST WANTED TO SEE KATASE-SEMPAI
WHAT!? DO YOU HAVE A CRUSH ON SOMEONE?
HNNP
THAT'S LAST YEAR'S GRADUATION ALBUM
RYOKO WANTED TO SEE IT SO I BORROWED IT FROM MY BROTHER
KATASE RINO
THIS GIRL?
OH... SQUEAK
OH—I KNOW HER SHE'S VERY PRETTY...
AND VERY NICE TO EVERYONE TOO
EH? RYOKO?
I'VE GOTTA GO TO THE NURSE'S OFFICE.
RYOKO, WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?
BUMP
!

"I found your letter and I read it."
"It floated down when I was on the rooftop."
I DON'T KNOW WHY
.. I WROTE YOU A REPLY
"If I got a letter like this... I think I would like you."
"Masumura Yasushi-sama"
BLUSH
"I'm sure Katase would like to know what you're feeling..."
"So next time, please send your letter so it won't get lost."
CLOSE
I DIDN'T WRITE MY NAME ON IT
DASH
LOCKER
SNEAKING

CLICLICK
RUSTLE
"To one who doesn't know me... Thank you very much for writing me a letter."
"When I was wondering if I should send her my letter, the wind blew it off."
A REPLY!?
EH!
"I looked for it everywhere but I couldn't find it. I figured it just got stuck somewhere.
HN!
I'M THE ONE THAT PICKED UP YOUR LETTER.
I WONDER WHAT YOU'D DO IF I TOLD EVERYONE YOU LIKED KATASE-SEMPAI..
KLICK
KLICK
GACHA
I'M GLAD.
I DIDN'T WRITE MY NAME..
HEY! YOU SURE HAVE A BAD ATTITUDE.
WHAT?!
SHE BUMPED INTO ME!
IT'S YOUR FAULT SHE PROBABLY GOT SCARED WHEN SHE SAW YOU
APOLOGIZE TO HER
NO WAY, FORGET IT!
...REPLY
...ON THE...
I SHOULDN'T EVEN HAVE REPLIED.
STARTLED

"I'm an expert at picking locks."
"Masumura"
..WROTE SUCH A...
...PURE HEART LETTER..
THAT MAN..
MY REPLY
I'M GLAD I WROTE BACK
..FOR ME?
EH?
CAN YOU PLEASE MAKE MY HAIR LOOK MORE FEMININE AND CUTE?
"After losing that letter, I decided it was better not to send it anyway."
YOU'RE GOING TO BE A TATTOO ARTIST, RIGHT?
YOU HAVE BAD TASTE.
SHUT UP!
CAN YOU DRAW SOMETHING ON ME TOO?
WOW! THAT'S COOL!
"THANK YOU FOR RETURNING MY OTHER LETTER, BUT..."
"Then I read your impression of my letter."
HM.
IS THAT SO?
I CAN DRAW MESH STOCKINGS ON YOUR LEGS
THAT'S ALL I CAN DRAW
NO WAY!
"I don't know what to say, but I feel comfortable with someone who thinks that way about me."
IT'S OK.
NO PROBLEM
LET'S GO
THANKS FOR WAITING.
SORRY
"I want to know who you are. But if you don't want to tell me your name, please write to me without your name on it."
"By the way, how did you get up onto the rooftop?"

"Did you feel satisfaction when you were thinking of Katase-sempai?"
"I wonder how I can find satisfaction."
"I can't even imagine it."
WE CAN'T WALK PAST THEM
LET'S GO HOME THE OTHER WAY
THEY'RE ALL BAD BLOOD
"I was glad to get your reply."
"I like the rooftop too. I go there when I want to be alone and listen to garage punk and GS. (GS is the original Japanese garage punk!)"

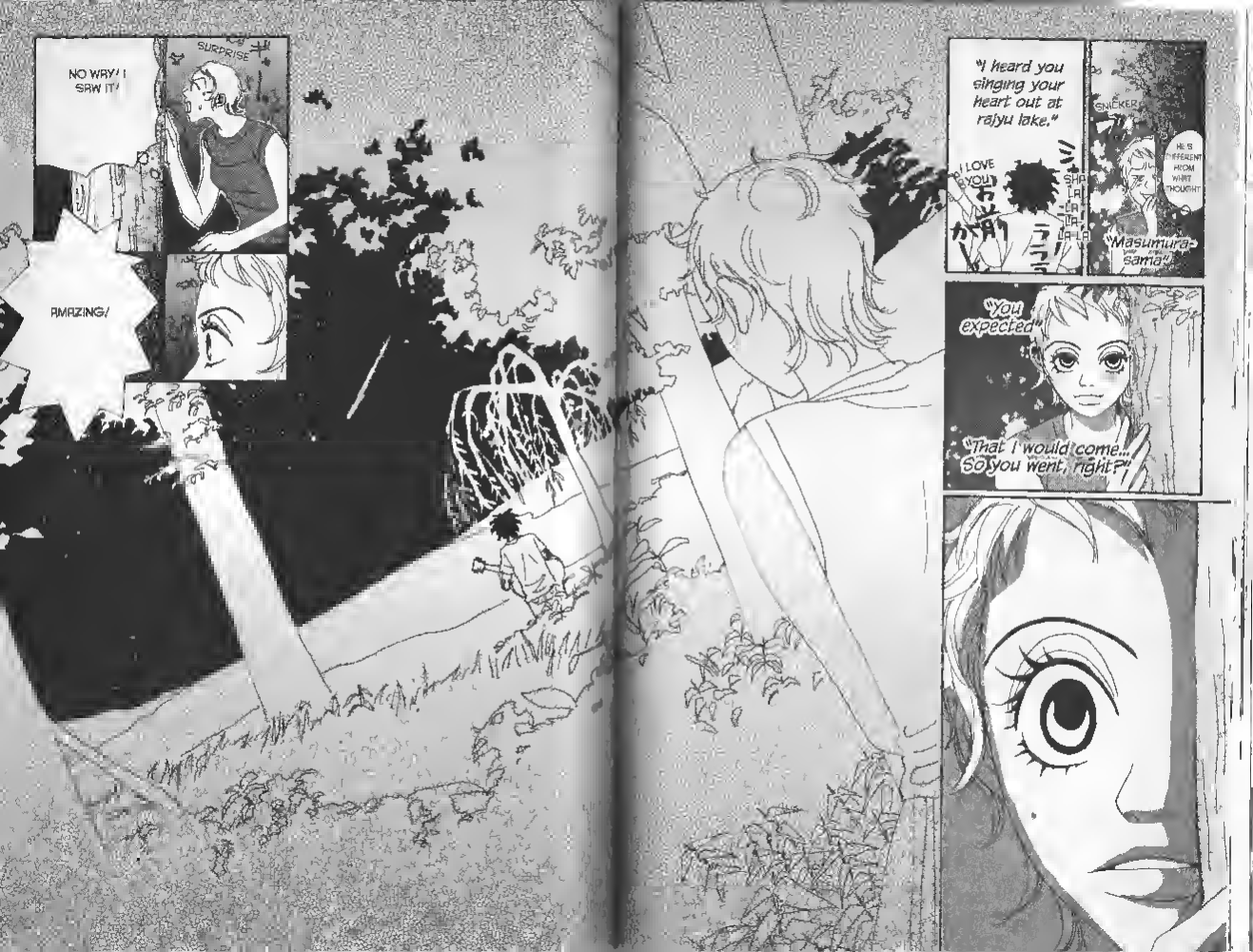
"Masumura-sama..."
"Oh my gosh! I didn't expect to get a reply!"
SNIP
SNIP
"I get onto the rooftop with a duplicate key I had made."
"...To find satisfaction in their boyfriends and girlfriends..."
"I have friends I like very much..."
"...But sometimes when we're having fun I feel too awkward to stay."
SNIP
SNIP
"Sometimes I just want to be alone, so I go up onto the rooftop."
"Everybody tries..."
"...For their loneliness and worries."

"I wonder if one day my wish will come true."
"I wish somebody thought that way about me."
"Masumura-sama..."
YOU IDIOT!
I'M YOUR PEN FRIEND
OUR EYES MET
"That's nice. I envy her."
"By the way, what does GS stand for? And what does 'garage' mean?"
SO, AYAKO..
HUH?
I DON'T KNOW HER
I LIKE THAT GIRL. INTRODUCE HER TO ME
NO, NOT REALLY
ARE YOU FALLING IN LOVE WITH SOME-ONE?
YOUR MAKE-UP LOOKS MORE SEXY
YOU LOOK CUTER LATELY
"I've only seen Katase-san on the rooftop one time before."
"I was wondering if she had made a duplicate key. I fell in love with her at first sight."
"Just by chance, before summer vacation, I saw her at the train station."
ANADOREI PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL
"All of my feelings for her came back to life when I saw her."
AH! AYAKO!
"That's why..."
"I wrote her that letter."

SHA LA-LA-LA-LA
I LOVE YOU...
I WANT YOU TO HOLD ME TIGHT
"Did you hear the broadcast today at lunchtime?"
SHUT UP! DON'T MAKE FUN OF SHOKEN!
THAT SONG WAS AWFUL!
WHAT WAS THAT?
"I think this is a great song."
BUT IT'S A COVER TUNE.
SHOKEN'S GOT IT ON TV NIGHT FULL!
THE TEMPTERS
"By the way..."
I BOUGHT THE CD.
SHA LA LA-LA-LA-LA LA LA LA
AH-AH... I HAVE LOVE... I DON'T WANT ANY-THING ELSE
EH!?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
IS THIS MASUMURA SINGING?
LAUGH
I HAVE YOU...
I DON'T WANT ANY-THING ELSE
THIS IS COOL!
THIS IS WHAT GS MUSIC SOUNDS LIKE
THIS IS A SONG BY SHOKEN.
COLD REPLY
HUH?
I'M JUST PREPARING
FOR THE DAY I FINALLY DO FIND SOMEONE
I TALKED LIKE I WAS WRITING A LETTER
SHOOT!
HEY, WAIT A MINUTE...
OH, YOU'RE RIGHT
I WASN'T LISTENING ANYWAY
HEY, THE LUNCHTIME BROADCAST HAS STOPPED
WHAT'S UP?
AHH... THIS IS A REQUEST BY MASUMURA FROM SAITAMA
YOU ALWAYS PLAY SUCH LAME MUSIC!
STOP IT, PLEASE... MASUMURA SEMPAI!
"LIVE FOR TODAY" BY THE TEMPTERS.

HE CAME!!
AMAZING...
IT LOOKS LIKE A UFO'S COMING OUT OF THE SKY
I HAVE LOVE
I DON'T WANT ANYTHING ELSE

"Anyway...
I've never seen a shooting star before."
"Have you?"
"It's going to be a clear night tonight and you'll be able to see lots of stars. Why don't you come?"
"I have one more place I like."
"The view from under the willow tree by Rajyu Lake is very special."
THAT'S NEAR MY HOUSE
"I drive down there on my motorcycle in the middle of the night."


NO WAY! I SAW IT!
SURPRISE
AMAZING!
"I heard you singing your heart out at raiyu lake."
I LOVE YOU
SHA LA LA LA LA
SNICKER
HE IS DIFFERENT FROM WHAT I THOUGHT
"Masumura-sama"
"You expected"
"That I would come... So you went, right?"

"I'm glad that we can share being impressed by the same thing."
"I get satisfaction out of sharing letters with you."
ME TOO.
WE'VE NEVER EVEN HELD EACH OTHER'S HAND, SO THIS FEELS A LITTLE STRANGE
BUT... ...IF
HE HOLDS OUT HIS HAND...
TO ME...
I WILL GO CRAZY
OOMPH
IT SHOT ACROSS THE SKY!
I SAW IT!
HEY!
AS IF HE WANTED ME TO HEAR
HE...
...WAS SHOUTING...
"Did you come last night?"
"That was the first time I'd ever seen a shooting star."

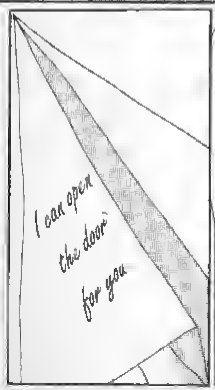
DON'T GO THAT WAY.
ALL RIGHT THEN
GOOD-BYE.
WAIT

I WANT YOU...
TO MAKE ME...
OH, IS THAT WHY YOU'RE IN A GOOD MOOD?
SORRY
NOTHING
WHAT'S UP?
HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A SHOOTING STAR?
...GO CRAZY
WHY DO YOU GUYS HAVE TO TALK RIGHT THERE!?
I CAN'T PUT MY LETTER IN HIS LOCKER.
LEAVE
HEY...

"That's why I wrote a letter to her."
IF...
I EXCHANGE MORE LETTERS WITH HIM...
I'M GOING TO WANT HIM MORE!
RIP
ビリッ
BUT IF HE REJECTS ME
RIP
ビリッ
PANT
はぁ
PANT
はぁ

DON'T GO THERE...
AH!
MASUMURA-KUN?
"I fell in love with her at first sight."
"All of my feelings for her..."
KACHA KACHA
ガチャ
ガチャ
OPEN
ベタン
"...Came back to life when I saw her."

FLUTTER
WHAT ARE THOSE?

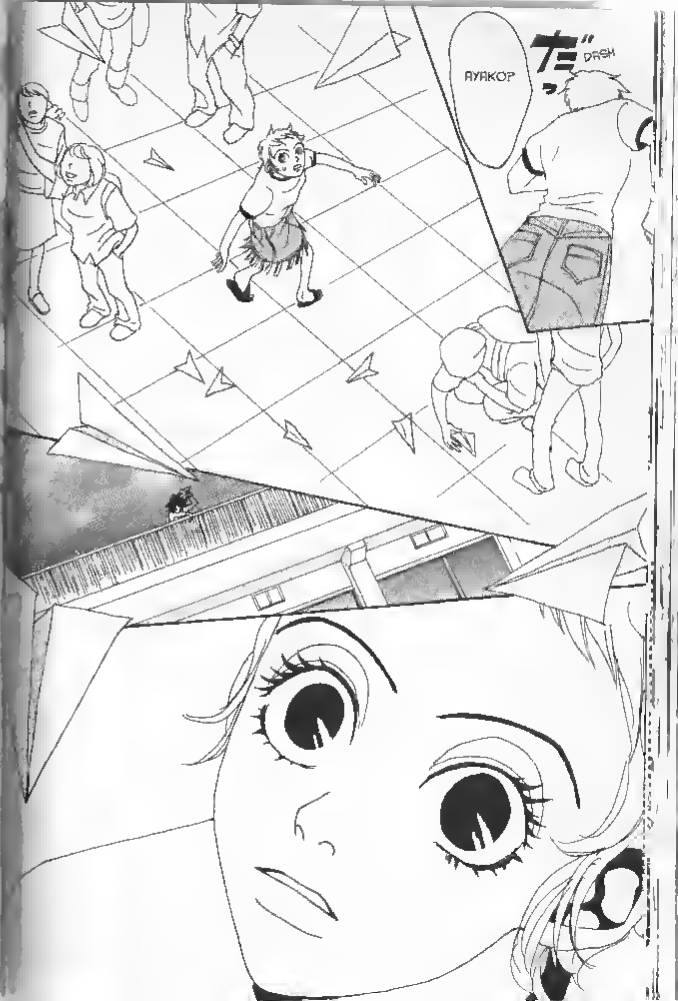

I can open the door for you.

THERE'S SOMETHING WRITTEN ON THEM!
LOOK

PAPER AIRPLANES...

I MAY NEVER GET OVER HIM.
Masumura-sama,
I've lost my key, so I think maybe we should stop writing letters.
GOOD MORNING!
MUH?
UH... I DIDN'T GET ENOUGH SLEEP LAST NIGHT
HEY.. YOUR EYES ARE SWOLLEN.
WHAT'S WRONG?
GOOD MORNING

ガチ
OPEN

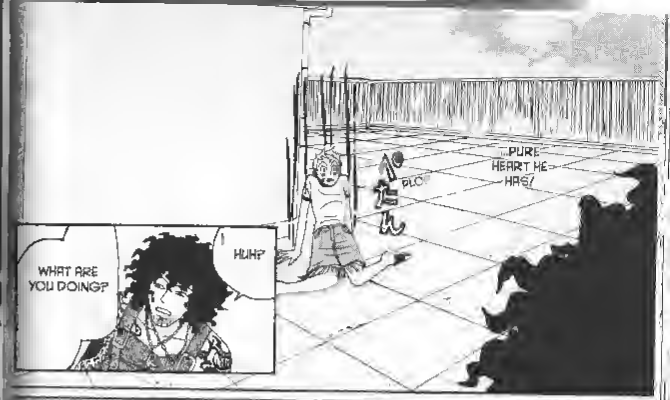

AYAKO?
ダッ
DASH

DON'T MAKE ME DO FOOLISH THINGS! IT'S EMBARRASSING!
WHAT P...
DAMN YOU!?
PANT
PANT
PANT
はあ
はあ

...AM HOLDING HIS COLORFUL HAND...

I HAVE TO STOP MYSELF FROM GOING CRAZY.

the end



"Kumashiro-sama"
"I might disappear, but don't forget about me."
KUMA BOWLING
ガコッ
CREAK
HEY YOU!
WHERE'S KUMASHIRO?
DIDN'T HE COME?
"I don't care if everyone else forgets about me..."
HUH? HE WAS HERE A COUPLE OF MINUTES AGO
"You're the only one I want to remember me."
IT'S SNOWING AGAIN
WHAT IS THIS? IT DOESN'T EVEN HAVE A SENDER'S NAME ON IT I DON'T UNDERSTAND

THAT'S CHEAP!
DO YOU THINK IT'S TRUE THAT SHE'D DO IT WITH ME FOR ONLY 500 YEN?*
AH!
OHYAMA SAID THAT?
HE WAS JUST JOKING!
DO YOU THINK SHE HEARD US?
SHOOT!
HER MOTHER'S BLOOD RUNS THROUGH HER
I HEARD OHYAMA GOT IT FOR THAT
HA
HA
HA
MI-YAS-HITA...
POSITIVE! THINK POSITIVE!
WHAT'S SHE SMILING ABOUT!?
SURPRISE
WH...

MIGHT DISAPPEAR
SUDDENLY...
"DISAP-PEAR"
THAT GIRL...
Letter 3
Flowers Blooming in the Snow
MIYASHITA CHIYUKI...
HEY

"Miyashita-sama"
IS THAT WHAT SHE MEANT BY "DISAPPEAR"!?
WAIT A MINUTE!!
"I read your letter. Whatever it is that happened to you, don't be too hasty."
"After winter, the spring comes. Nice things will come to you.
Haven't you ever seen flowers blooming in the spring?"
"If you haven't seen them...
"Or if you've forgotten what they look like."
"Would you let me help you to see them?"

THE POLICE TOOK MIYASHITA IN LAST NIGHT
SO THE LETTER COULDN'T BE FROM HER.
I'VE NEVER EVEN TALKED TO HER...
HEY, WANNA KNOW WHAT I JUST HEARD?
FOOT STEPS
MIYASHITA-SAN WAS SLEEPING OUTSIDE ON A BENCH WITH ONLY LIGHT CLOTHES ON
YOU'RE KIDDING
WHY!?
SHE WAS GONNA SLEEP THERE BECAUSE SHE COULDN'T GO HOME. THAT'S WHAT SHE SAID, ANYWAY
..IS TOO PRETTY TO BE IN THE COUNTRY-SIDE
SHE'S NOT EASY TO APPROACH.
AND HER MOTHER IS ALWAYS GOING OUT WITH DIFFERENT MEN, SO SHE'S AN EASY TARGET FOR RUMORS
HUH, OUT IN THIS SNOW?
IT SOUNDS LIKE SHE WAS TRYING TO COMMIT SUICIDE!
REALLY!?
HUH?
"I might disappear..."

WE'RE BUSY RIGHT NOW, GO AWAY!
SHUT UP, YOU LITTLE BRATS!
YEAH! LET'S GO FOR A RIDE!
WHAT WERE THEY DOING?
WHOA
WAIT!
I WAS WASTING MY TIME WORRYING ABOUT HER
I CAN BE AN IDIOT
AH.
YEAH.
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE

I MAILED THE LETTER BY EXPRESS..
BUT...
SHE NEVER SEEMED TO ACKNOWL-EDGE ME.
HA...
I WONDER... MAYBE IT WASN'T FROM MI-YASHITA?
A MERMAID LIVES HERE!
THAT'S IDIOTIC
SNICKER
HEY, WHY DIDN'T THIS PART OF THE SWAMP FREEZE?
HNP
WHAT'S THE MATTER? DID YOU CATCH A COLD?
HEY, THERE'S A BOAT!
I WANT TO RIDE IN IT
OUCH!
A MERMAID?
GOOD IMAGINATION, ROSA-CHAN!
BE-CAUSE..

EH?
DON'T STAND SO SUDDENLY...
SPLASHHH
BUBBLE
BUBBLE
OK?
DID YOU WANT TO RIDE IN THE BOAT? I WANT TO RIDE TOO
EH?
WHAT...?
SHE LOOKS DESPERATE...
STAND
WHOA!
ROW FASTER!
SOMETHING DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT...

SHE IS BEAUTIFUL...
I'VE FALLEN IN LOVE WITH HER.
BUBBLE
BUBBLE
HUH... WHR...?
IT'S DARK...
DYING...
MY BLOOD IS FREEZ-ING...
BUBBLE
MY BODY
I CAN'T MOVE...
BUBBLE
BUBBLE
BUBBLE
HUH?
OH...
A MERMAID...
SAVIOR...

SPLASH
WHAT SMALL KNEES..
AND WHITE...

YOU'RE SO STU-PID!!
I WAS ALMOST RAPED..
THANK YOU.
WHY'D YOU GO THERE WITH HIM!?
A SWAMP!
IS IT?
IT'S A MIRACLE WE'RE BOTH STILL ALIVE!
WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?
SHIVE
SHIVER
THAT MAN WOULDN'T LET ME GO
EHP
SHIVER
SHIVE
I'M SORRY I GUESS I DON'T CARE.. I DON'T HAVE MUCH COMMON SENSE.
WE SHOULD WARM OURSELVES SOON, OR WE COULD DIE
GET IN-
LET'S TAKE A BATH WITH OUR CLOTHES ON.
PHEWW..
.....

BUT...
YOU'RE FUNNY!
あはは
HA HA HA
YOUR NOSE..
SNOT'S COMING OUT!
AH!
ブー
BLOWING NOSE
DON'T LAUGH AT ME!
DON'T GET SO CLOSE!
I WASN'T EXPECTING..
WOW!
DRIP DRIP
!!
ガラッ
SLIDE
HA HA HA
...FOR HER TO LAUGH LIKE A CHILD AT SUCH A CHILDISH THING

HEY...
THEY'D PROBABLY BE VERY SOFT...
IF I TOUCH THEM

MIYASHITA-KUN WAS ABSENT FROM SCHOOL
THE NEXT DAY
I WANTED TO SEE HIM MORE...
SQUISH
IS THIS STRANGE?
I'M GOING TO GO TO HER HOUSE TO RETURN THESE CLOTHES.
雪かき
SHOVELING AWAY SNOW
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE!?
HUH?
THERE'S THE PIG...
HE COMES OVER SOMETIMES...
YOU'D BETTER LEAVE NOW.
I CAN LEND YOU SOME DRY CLOTHES
FIND SNIFFS AROUND FOR FOOD
AH...
HER SMILE HAS LEFT HER FACE
IS SOMETHING WRONG?
THIS MAY BE THE COUNTRYSIDE, BUT I'VE NEVER SEEN ANY WILD PIGS AROUND HERE!
SQUISH
HEY HEY HEY!!
ANYWAY..
SQUISH
SQUISH
SHE WAS CUTE WHEN SHE LAUGHED

MIYA...
SLOWLY FALLING
OUCH!
WHAT WERE YOU THINK-ING!?
IF YOU HAD FALLEN YOU COULD HAVE KILLED YOURSELF!
GASP
EFFORT
YOU..
YOU LOOK ANGRY
YOU IDIOT!
HUH?
KUMASHI-RO-KUN!?
A SNOW HOUSE!?
AND THE WIND BLEW MY MUFFLER OFF--
I WAS MAKING A SNOW HOUSE.
HEY!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
MIYASHITA!

GO HOME/ IDIOT GIRL!!
YEAH..
YOU WERE GOING TO SLEEP OUTSIDE AGAIN...
WHAT I WANT TO DO IS NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS/
QUIT BUGGING ME/
SHUT UP/
I NEVER WROTE YOU ANY LETTER/
WELL, THAT WAS...
AH..
THAT MAKES ME LAUGH//
WHY DO YOU MEAN THE FLOWERS?
ALL OF A SUDDEN YOU SENT ME A STRANGE LETTER..
I DON'T WANT TO GO HOME
I'M NOT TRYING TO KILL MYSELF
BUT IT WOULD BE OK EVEN IF I DID DIE
IT CAN'T BE HELPED I DON'T CARE
SO LEAVE ME ALONE/
WHACK
I CAN'T STAND YOU...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING/?
I CAN'T STAND YOU ANY MORE/
KOBA BOWLING
BOWLING KOBA

DID YOU SEE THAT!?
YIPEE
NO WAY!
AND ON AND ON, USING MANY DIFFERENT 'STYLES'!
BUT THEY WERE ALL GUTTER BALLS!
HOW ABOUT LIKE SHOKEN GOOFING OFF ON ALL NIGHT FUJI!?
I CAN BOWL FROM BEHIND MY BACK.
WHY WOULD YOU WANNA DO THAT?
GAMBLE
SHOKEN
KLEENEX RING A SONG TOO!
COMPACT
BUT WITH MY HEAD...
IMPOSSIBLE
ROLL
IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW I DO IT, AS LONG AS I HIT THE PINS!
THAT WAS OK...
BUT AT MY LEVEL...
DAMN!

STAY HERE.
IT'S SNOWING TOO HARD FOR YOU TO GO HOME.
KRAK
CHIYUKI-CHAN, HAVE YOU EVER BOWLED BEFORE?
OH!
STRIKE ...!?
YOU DON'T ROLL IT WITH BOTH HANDS!
I JUST HAVE TO ROLL THE BALL, RIGHT?
TOUCH
THROW
KLAK
BOWLING'S EASY!
LERVE KUMASHIRO ALONE
LET'S PLAY A GAME WITH JUST THE TWO OF US.

I HAVE MANY QUESTIONS I WANT TO ASK YOU...
...MAKING YOU LAUGH
I WANT TO KEEP...
HUH?
YAWN
WHAT?
DID YOU SEE!?
DID...
MY STRANGE BEHAVIOR!?
FWIP
HM...
I WAS COMFORTABLE ENOUGH TO SLEEP HERE FOR A LONG TIME WITHOUT WORRYING
AH.
I WAS ASLEEP
SHE'S REALLY CUTE!!
SHE WENT TO SLEEP
OH
"I DON'T WANT TO GO HOME."
I'M TIRED, TOO
BUT SHE'S STILL LIKE A CHILD
SHE'S SO CHILDLIKE.
I THOUGHT THAT SHE WAS MORE MATURE.
I'M GOING TO THE BATHROOM
"BUT IT WOULD BE OK EVEN IF I DID DIE."

KACLICK
WE SHOULD GO TO SLEEP TOO
SCRATCH SCRATCH
OH YEAH.
MIYASHITA ...!?
ZZZZ
COLD
RETURNING FROM BATHROOM
SLIDE
GOOD NIGHT
THANK YOU
TH...
PULL
BUT I REALLY DO WANT TO HELP YOU
I GUESS YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT I MEAN.
ABOUT THAT LETTER...
AH...

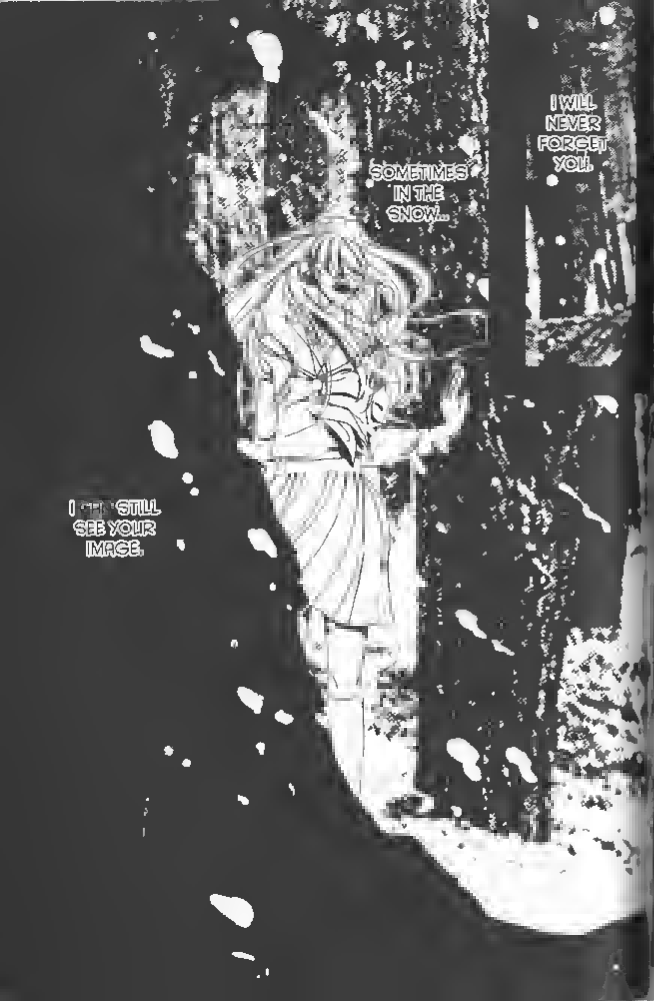
"When I'm thinking of you, I feel I'm just like other regular girls. And I feel happy."
SQUISH
WHY DON'T YOU EVER...
...SHOVEL THE SNOW!?
DAMN IT!
"But, society thinks I'm a bad girl."
Kumashiro
DAMN IT!
"I'm just like my mom..."
"I can't see flowers."
"I'm just a bad girl who bad men sleep with."
"That letter... I wasn't expecting for you to figure out that I wrote it."
"Kumashiro-sama"
SQUISH
"..."
"The reason I like you is, you are honest and strong and have a strong spirit."
DAMN IT...

I was raped by my mother's pig boyfriend.
All I wanted to do was disappear.
MIYASHITA ...!
WHY...
WHY ARE YOU FOLLOWING ME?
YOU DESPISE ME NOW, DON'T YOU?
MY LETTER...
YOU READ IT, RIGHT?
STOP SAYING YOU WANT TO HELP ME!
O..
LET'S GO!
OKINEWA

MIYASHITA...
YOU ARE...
MY FLOWER
HUH?
LISTEN TO YOU...!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
WE CAN SLEEP OUTSIDE AND I'M GOOD AT FISHING
SQUEEZE
I...
I WANT YOU TO...
ALWAYS LAUGH.
GO AWAY WITH ME.
MIYASHITA...
LET'S LEAVE THIS BORING VILLAGE

FORGOT SOMETHING.
I... AH...
I NEED TO GO GET IT/
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK
HUH?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
IT'S OK, JUST WAIT FOR ME/
THE LETTER YOU GAVE ME.
IT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO ME
MI...
MIYASHITA
OH...
HEY, LOOK/

THE SNOW LOOKS LIKE FLOWER PETALS



"I might disappear, but don't forget about me."

SHE RAN THROUGH THE FLOWERS, AND THEN SHE DISAPPEARED.

WHY CAN'T SHE JUST BE HONEST AND SAY..
"COME TO SEE ME."
OH WELL...
WHATEVER.
KUMASHIRO SAN!
I HAVE A LETTER FOR YOU!
I sent you some flowers from my neighbor's tree. Aren't they cute? They are blooming everywhere. Do you want to see them?
Kanagawa-ken Yokohama-shi Miyashita Chiyuki
WHAT DOES SHE MEAN BY THIS?

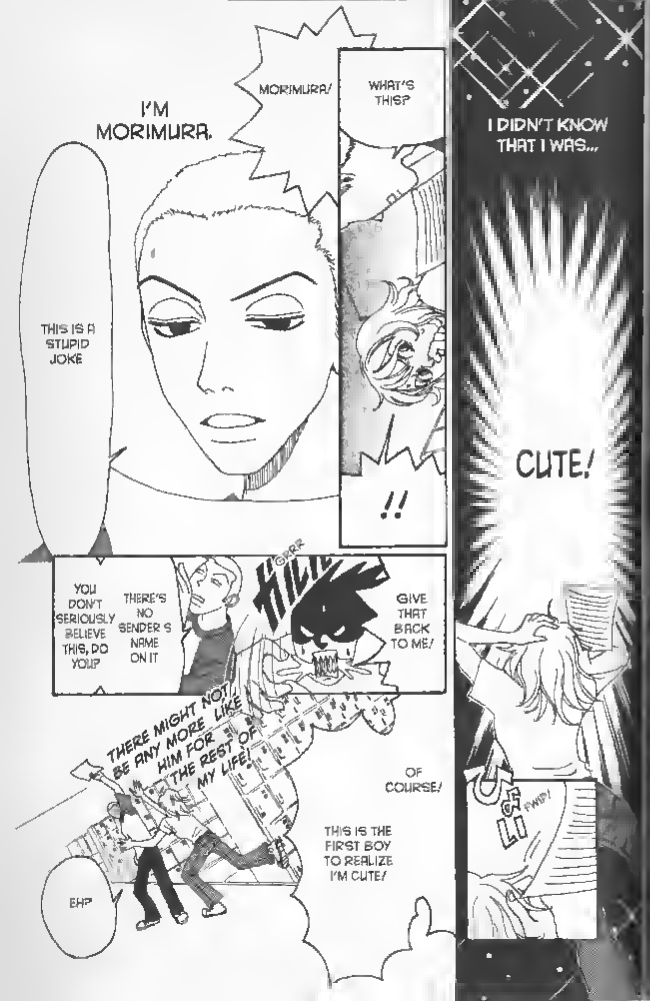
Letter 3 FLOWERS BLOOMING IN THE SNOW

I NEVER CARED IF PEOPLE SAID THAT ABOUT ME.
PEOPLE COMPLIMENT ME THAT I'M "COOL" AND "LIKE A MAN"
I'VE NEVER REALLY BEEN INTERESTED IN BOYS, SO I'VE NEVER BEEN IN LOVE.
FOR ME,
ISN'T HE OUT ON A DATE WITH HIS GIRL-FRIEND?
BY THE WAY WHERE'S MORIMURA?
EH?
EH?
ぎゃはは
ポロリ
ポテ

BUT SUDDENLY...

I WANTED TO BE LOVED.

THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED.

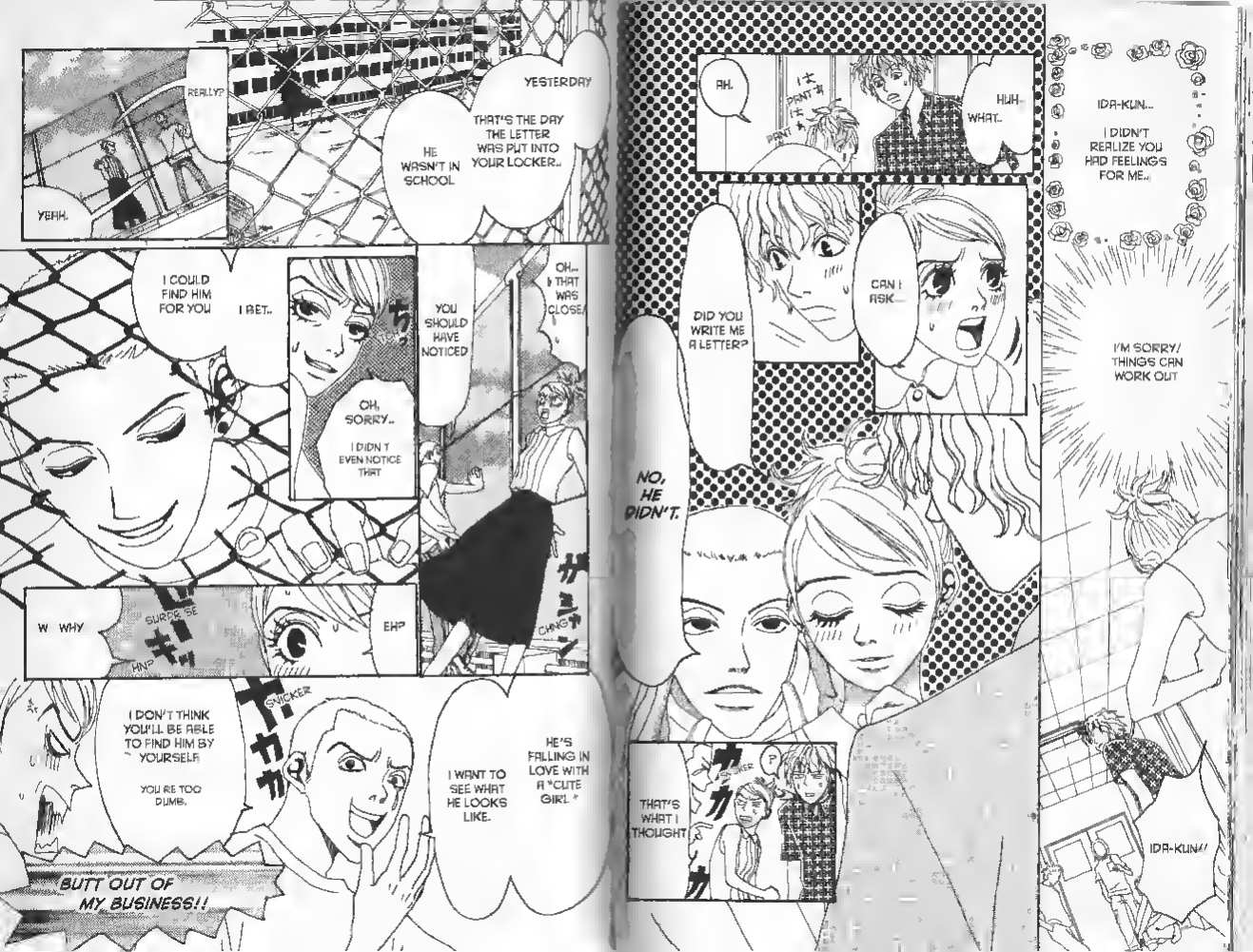

I'M MORIMURA.
MORIMURA!
WHAT'S THIS?
!!
THIS IS A STUPID JOKE
YOU DON'T SERIOUSLY BELIEVE THIS, DO YOU?
THERE'S NO SENDER'S NAME ON IT
GRAB
GIVE THAT BACK TO ME!
THERE MIGHT NOT BE ANY MORE LIKE HIM FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE!
OF COURSE!
THIS IS THE FIRST BOY TO REALIZE I'M CUTE!
EHP
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT I WAS...
CUTE!
SWIP!

SHAKING SHAKING
cu..
cu..
cu..
cu..
I think you're really cute and I'm falling in love with you.
But you don't have any idea that I'm feeling this way.
SHAKING
...IN MY LOCKER...
I FOUND A LETTER...
CUTE!!??
I LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT
WHO!?
ME!!??
Letter 4
Love Letter Panic

LOVE CHANGES WOMEN.
AHH.... LOVE IS A MIRACLE.
AND I'M REALLY SORRY I MADE FUN OF YOU THE OTHER DAY.
I'M GOING NOW!
DID YOU MAKE FUN OF ME? HM...
CHATTER CHATTER
HAYAKAWA?
WHO IS THAT?
WHY ARE YOU SO DRESSED UP TODAY?
I KNOW THAT VOICE.
!
ALL THIS IS BECAUSE SOMEONE SAID YOU WERE "CUTE" IN A LETTER?
WALK FAST
BACK OFF!!
SMACK
GOOD PUNCH
SPRING HAS FINALLY SPRUNG FOR ME!
QUIT MAKING FUN OF ME!
DO YOU EVEN UNDERSTAND WHAT CUTE MEANS?
CUTE
MEOW
NOT CUTE
YOU POOR THING... NO ONE'S EVER TOLD THAT TO YOU BEFORE, HUH...?
WHOEVER THIS BOY IS, HE WANTS ME TO FIND HIM!!
IT HASN'T SPRUNG YET. YOU DON'T KNOW WHO THIS IS FROM.
I'LL FIND HIM!!
SORRY, I'M JUST BORROWING THEM.
HSSS
DID YOU TAKE SOME OF MY CLOTHES?
HEY, SIS...
IS THIS WHAT BEING IN LOVE IS LIKE?
TWEET TWEET
AND I'LL FIND HIM SOON.

AH!
IS IT POSSIBLE...
WHAT'S UP?
IDA-KUN!?
WHY IS HE BEING SO FRIENDLY!?
HE'S NEVER PAID ATTENTION TO ME BEFORE WHY IS HE TRYING TO TALK TO ME NOW?
ALL OF A SUDDEN
WHAT'S GOING ON? YOU'VE CHANGED YOUR IMAGE
HE'S THE ONE WHO WROTE ME THE LETTER...!?
じっ...
GAZE
DOES SHE HAVE A CRUSH ON ME?
GAZE
AH HA HA I DON'T KNOW.
WHAT'S THAT ALL ABOUT?
CHANGING YOUR IMAGE?
WHAT?
UHH...

YOU ARE REALLY GETTING ON MY NERVES!
I'VE DECIDED THAT FROM NOW ON I'M GOING TO LIVE FOR LOVE.
YOU'RE NO FUN ANY MORE.
I THOUGHT YOU WERE THE GIRL WHO WAS ALWAYS GOING TO STAY INDEPENDENT
I KINDA LIKE THAT PART OF YOU.
BUT YOU KNOW WHAT?
JUST NOT RIGHT NOW.
HAYAKAWA-SAN!


REALLY?
YEAH.
YESTERDAY
HE WASN'T IN SCHOOL
THAT'S THE DAY THE LETTER WAS PUT INTO YOUR LOCKER..
I COULD FIND HIM FOR YOU
I BET..
OH, SORRY..
I DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE THAT
YOU SHOULD HAVE NOTICED
OH... THAT WAS CLOSE!
W WHY
SURPRISE
EH?
CHANG
I DON'T THINK YOU'LL BE ABLE TO FIND HIM BY YOURSELF.
YOU'RE TOO DUMB.
SNICKER
BUTT OUT OF MY BUSINESS!!
I WANT TO SEE WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE.
HE'S FALLING IN LOVE WITH A "CUTE GIRL."
AH.
PANT
HUH.. WHAT..
DID YOU WRITE ME A LETTER?
CAN I ASK...
NO, HE DIDN'T.
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT
IDA-KUN...
I DIDN'T REALIZE YOU HAD FEELINGS FOR ME...
I'M SORRY/ THINGS CAN WORK OUT
IDA-KUN!!

PAGE 32, 2ND PARAGRAPH.
PAGE...
AH... WHAT PAGE ARE WE ON?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!? READ THE NEXT PAGE!
Y...YES!
FROM "JEAN IS.."
O...
OKUDA...?
HURRY, READ IT.
COULD IT BE HIM?
HUH?
SORRY... I DIDN'T REALIZE UNTIL NOW...
YEAH, NOW YOU OWE ME!
THANK'S FOR HELPING ME.
OKUDA!
DID HE WRITE IT!?
IT WASN'T BIN-KUN.
FOR INSTANCE...
LOOKING AROUND
IF HE LIKES ME HE'LL BE WATCHING ME.
I don't Why are you looking all around? Silly girl
WHOA... HE'S READING MY MIND
MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS!
GO TO HELL!
HAYA-KAWA!!
JUST WAIT, YOU'LL SEE! I'LL FIND HIM BY MYSELF!
THERE'S LOVE BETWEEN US...
SO I'LL BE ABLE TO FIND ALL THE RIGHT CLUES.

WELL...
THEN WHO?
SLUMP
I'M ALSO LEFT-HANDED AND WE'VE TALKED ABOUT IT BEFORE.
ABOUT SOMEDAY DESIGNING A PEN FOR LEFT-HANDED PEOPLE.
NO WAY!
REALLY?
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT
HE'S NEVER ACTED LIKE HE HAS A CRUSH ON YOU
THERE'S "LOVE" BETWEEN YOU, SO YOU'LL FIGURE IT OUT, RIGHT?
STOP TEASING ME!
NOW WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO TO FIND HIM?
EH?
ARE YOU STILL GOING TO GO OUT WITH HIM...NO MATTER WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE?
OF COURSE I AM!
HM...
IN FACT, I HAVEN'T EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT THAT.

THE LETTER...?
IT WAS YOU, RIGHT?
YOU SEE!
THIS LETTER WAS WRITTEN WITH A GEL INK PEN
really cute, love with don't have feeling
AH...
WRONG!
I WONDER IF SHE LIKES ME...?
HEY, WAIT
OH, SORRY I WON'T SAY ANY MORE.
AND OKUDA IS LEFT HANDED
DID YOU KNOW THAT?
BUT IT'S NOT SMEARED
IF A LEFT-HANDED PERSON USED THIS PEN, THE WRITING WOULD BE SMEARED

IT'S THIS ONE.
YOU CAN USE MINE.
FORGOT TO BRING MY TEXT BOOK
YOUR SHIRT'S TORN. I'LL SEW IT TO IT FOR YOU.
BUT IF I THINK THAT WAY...
ARE YOU OK?
NURSE'S OFFICE
IDIOT.
OH MAN, I GOT AN F. I'LL HAVE TO DO MAKE-UP CLASSES!
IF I TRY TO PLEASE EVERYONE...
DAZED...
ME TOO.
MAYBE WE CAN STUDY TOGETHER.

THAT'S RIGHT!
I WAS ONLY THINKING IT'D BE SOMEONE IN MY CLASS.
BUT I'M GONNA GUESS...
I SAW YOU CHECKING OUT EVERY-ONE IN THE CLASS ROOM EARLIER
HE'S NOT IN THE SAME GRADE AS US...
OR MAYBE THAT HE'S A TEACHER
HE HE
YOU SAID, WAIT AND SEE!!
YOU'VE FOUND THE WRONG PERSON TWICE ALREADY!
YOU WAIT AND SEE!
I'LL FIND HIM THIS TIME!
YOU'LL BE LOOKING FOR HIM FOREVER!
HE HE HE HE HE HE HE
YOU'D BETTER BACK OFF!
DAMN IT!
THE THIRD TIME'S THE CHARM!
AH...
I'M SORRY...
ANGRY
OH, I'M ALL RIGHT. ♡
HM?
WHERE?
IT COULD BE THIS ONE.
DON
LAUGHTER
BUM
UH...
CHATTER
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
THAT WAS I SUPPOSE, BUT...
WHICH ONE IS IT?

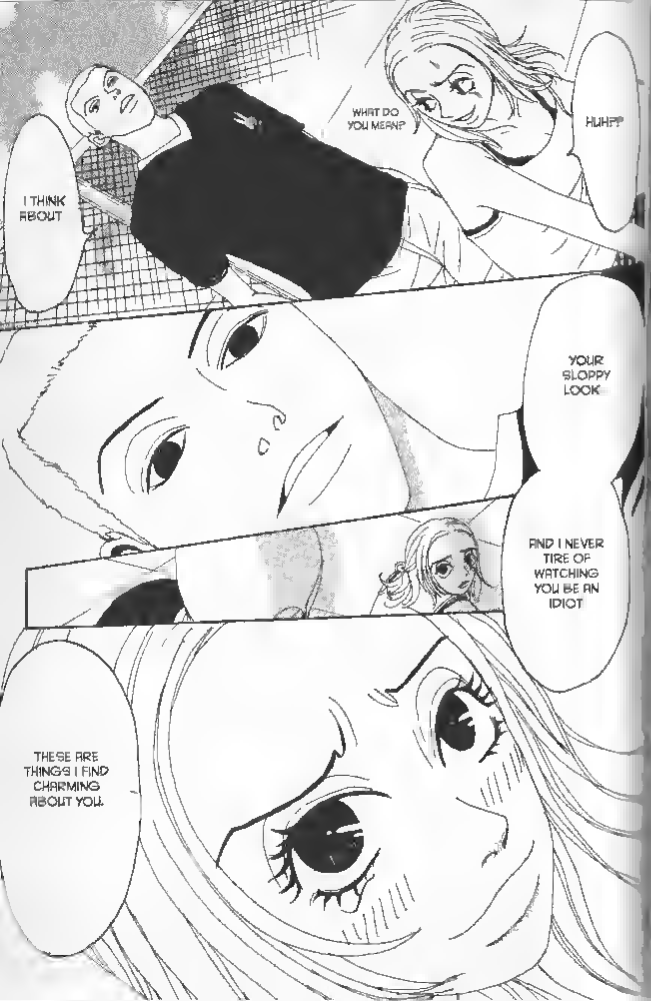
WHAT IS HE DOING...?
DING DONG DING DONG
THERE'S A PHONE CALL FOR YAMASHITA-SENSEI
HUH?
I'LL HEAL YOUR BROKEN HEART
MORIMURA
1ST YEAR, CLASS B
I'll keep everything confidential
IF YOU'RE HAVING PROBLEMS WITH LOVE AND YOU WANT TO TALK TO SOMEONE...
FLICK
AHH...
MY BUSINESS CARD..
HI, I'M MORIMURA..
YEAH..
IT'S A BEAUTIFUL SUNSET, ISN'T IT..?
DING DONG DING DONG
I'VE GOT A GREAT IDEA!
!!
AH— HAYAKAWA-SAN FAINTED A FEW MOMENTS AGO.
SHE IS RESTING IN THE NURSE'S OFFICE
CHATTER
DID YOU HEAR THAT?

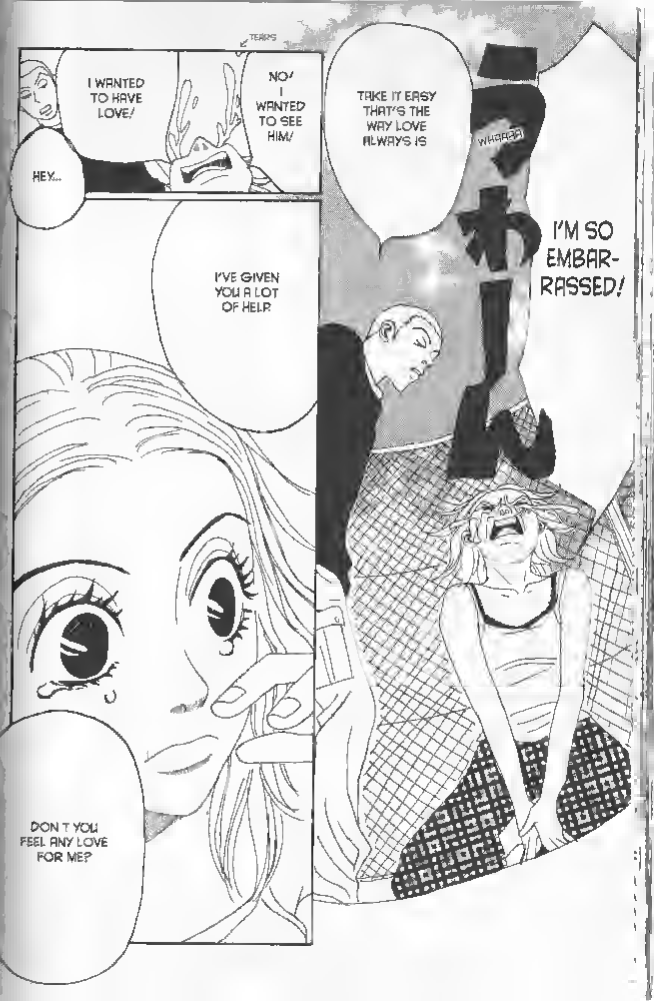
FLK
I'LL JUST WEAR MYSELF OUT
AFTER SCHOOL, FROM THE ROOFTOP YOU CAN SEE THE RED SUNSET VERY WELL...
IT'S THE PLACE WHERE ALL THE BROKEN-HEARTED MEN GATHER.
HM?
IS THAT MORIMURA?
WHY IS HE WEARING A SUIT?
THEY FOUGHT OVER THE SAME GIRL
HUH?
THEY ALL LOOK LIKE THEY'RE UNHAPPY
ALL THOSE GUYS ARE GATHERED IN THE WEST CORNER.
WHAT'S GOING ON?

THE TRUTH IS I'M SO HAPPY I COULD CRY
GUYS!
MAYBE THAT'S IT!
HEY!
WAKE UP! YOU FAKER!
COME ON!
THAT ANNOUNCEMENT WAS JUST A JOKE! SOME IDIOT DID IT
MORIMURA! DON'T BE SO CRUEL!
HUH? REALLY!?
I DIDN'T REALIZE THAT I WAS SO POPULAR WITH THE BOYS!?
OH..
MAYBE...
GOOD
IS IT OK FOR YOU TO BE STANDING!? YOU SHOULD BE LYING DOWN!
AH..
YES...
WHY DID SO MANY GUYS COME HERE?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
DID THEY ALL WRITE THAT LETTER TOGETHER?
GOING TO MEET EACH OTHER...!
WE'RE FINALLY...
HEE-HEE. THE GUY WHO WROTE THE LETTER WILL RUSH OVER TO SEE ME.
INTERCOM
TEE-HEE
WORK'S OFFICE
SLIDE
EHP
EHP

"I have a girl I like, but Hayakawa seems to like me. Should I choose the easy one?"
FIND ANOTHER ONE SAYS..
THAT'S WHAT HE SAYS
THERE ARE A LOT MORE SIMILAR CASES
THEY ALL MISUNDERSTOOD ME.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
IT SEEMS...
YES, IT IS.
IS...
THIS FOR REAL?
OH..
I'M...

WHAT!
YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME SOONER!
I DISCOVERED IT WHEN I WAS GIVING HIM ADVICE ON LOVE.
HE'S WRITING ON THE ROOFTOP.
EH?
WHO ME?
I FOUND THE ONE WHO WROTE YOU THE LETTER
HEY, DID YOU SEE THAT/? I REALLY AM POPULAR WITH BOYS/
YOU IDIOT THEY WERE ALL THERE BECAUSE YOU TRICKED THEM
WELL...
I WAS EXPECTING TO GET A REPLY..
BUT SHE SAID SHE NEVER RECEIVED MY LETTER
OH
YEAH, THIS IS IT...
THEN I REALIZED I MUST HAVE PUT IT IN THE WRONG LOCKER
AND I HADN'T PUT MY NAME ON IT


I THINK ABOUT
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
HUH??
YOUR SLOPPY LOOK
AND I NEVER TIRE OF WATCHING YOU BE AN IDIOT
THESE ARE THINGS I FIND CHARMING ABOUT YOU.


TEARS
I WANTED TO HAVE LOVE/
NO/ I WANTED TO SEE HIM/
HEY...
I'VE GIVEN YOU A LOT OF HELP
DON'T YOU FEEL ANY LOVE FOR ME?
TAKE IT EASY THAT'S THE WAY LOVE ALWAYS IS
WHAAA!!
I'M SO EMBAR-RASSED!

Letter 4 LOVE LETTER PANIC

Letter 5 THE MAHMAN'S LOVE

!!
SO WHAT DO YOU THINK?
WHO ELSE ARE YOU GONNA FIND THAT HAS BAD TASTE LIKE I DO?
HUH?
YOU GET SO CARRIED AWAY!
YOU DIE!
I'LL HAVE TO BREAK UP WITH HER
I CAN'T HELP IT IF I HAVE BAD TASTE
YOU ALREADY HAVE A GIRL-FRIEND!
YOU IDIOT!
WELL ..
AT LEAST HE HAS ENOUGH GOOD TASTE TO CHOOSE ME I GUESS HE'LL DO
I BROKE UP WITH HER
YOU GET SO CARRIED AWAY!
the end

LA LA LA LI LA LI
LA LA-LA LA-
LA-LA LA-
ガーシン
LA- LA-LA-
LI LA LI LA LI
LA LI
LA- LA LI
LA- LA LA-

Letter 5
The Mailman's Love
!
SINCE THAT MAN HASN'T BEEN COMING
LATELY, I HAVEN'T HEARD HER PLAYING CELLO
HUHP
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SHE'S GOTTEN A LETTER
Hold my hand up
Over the sun
THIS COULD BE FROM THE MAN WHO USED TO ALWAYS BE SITTING IN THAT WINDOW WITH HER
SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT!!
WHEN SHE SITS BY THAT WINDOW
SHE...
...SHOULD BE HAPPY
TOKOHARU-KEN MARUHERA-SHI
HAZUCHI-SHIKAEO-SAMA

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I'VE SEEN YOUR SMILE..
COULD YOU PLEASE READ IT TO ME?
REALLY
A LETTER?
HE WRITES...
HE WAS TRANSFERRED AND HAD TO MOVE SO HE WRITES AND THEN READS THEM TO ME THE NEXT TIME HE SEES ME.
HE'S NOT VERY TALKATIVE, SO HE WRITES EVERYTHING IN A LETTER AND THEN READS IT TO ME
IS IT OK FOR ME TO READ IT?
YEAH
I CAN'T WAIT
I'VE BEEN WAITING!
HE WAS TOO BUSY TO MAIL HIS LETTERS.
HURRY, READ IT!
FAH... OK

WHO'S IS IT?
KACHAK
AHH..
SHE'LL SEE ME
HELLO...?
IS SOMEONE THERE?
EH?
I'M...
..YOUR MAILMAN
I BROUGHT YOU A LETTER
OH...
PARDON ME...
OH..
CAN SHE NOT..
SEE...?

"BUT I HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN ABOUT YOU."
"MOVING WAS HARDER THAN I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE. THAT'S WHY I MAILED YOUR LETTER A LITTLE LATE."
"I REALLY WANT TO SEE YOU."
"I STILL REMEMBER YOUR PRETTY SMILE AND THE SOUND OF YOUR CELLO."
THE LETTER...
PLEASE GIVE IT TO ME.
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
I'M HAPPY.
THAT'S...
FILL.
SNIFFLE SNIFFLE
SNIFFLE
"I'LL WRITE YOU AGAIN SOON."
"TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF AND KEEP SMILING."
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
OH...
I'M JUST NERVOUS.
"SAWAKO-SAMA"
"HOW ARE YOU DOING?"
To Sawako,
I truly love you.
But i can't see you any more.
I'm sorry.

THAT MADE ME HAPPY
OH... MAN...
WOULD YOU READ IT TO ME?
PLEASE...
WHAT HAVE I GOTTEN MYSELF INTO?
IF I DO..
THANK YOU!
OFFICE SUPPLIES
PENCILS
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE BOUGHT A LETTER SET
SHOULD I...
BUT...

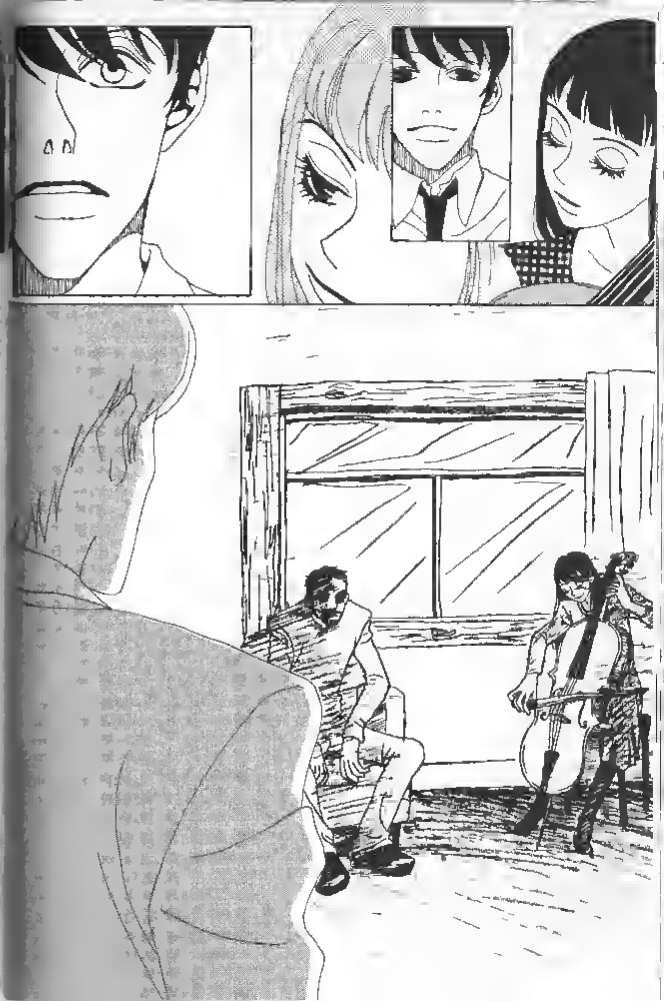
THE NEXT TIME I GET A LETTER..

BUT I FEEL THAT HE'S BEING VERY HONEST IN THIS LETTER AND YESTERDAY'S, TOO.
EH
OH NO, I'M AN IDIOT!!
HMM.
I WONDER WHY HE CHANGED HE NEVER USED TO WRITE ROMANTIC LETTERS BEFORE
I...
I LIKE IT
"When I'm writing you a letter...."
"I remember everything about you."
"It makes me happy to think of you."
"I want you to feel me through this letter."
YOUR HAIR
YOUR VOICE
YOUR EYES, YOUR LIPS
THE SOUND OF YOUR VOICE
SHOULDERS
CHEST
ANKLES
I AM INTOXICATED WITH THE MEMORY OF YOU.
I'M EVEN M-ASTERED MYSELF !
HEH HEH
AND...
THAT'S THE END

I WANT TO HEAR THAT...
REALLY?!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!!
HE'S SO EXCITED HE'S SHAKING
SLIDE
OK, READY?
THE TIME HAS COME WHEN SHE'S PLAYING CELLO FOR ME.
AH...

I WILL WRITE YOU AS MUCH AS I CAN.
IF IT MAKES YOU FEEL HAPPY
.. TO HEAR MY WORDS IN THIS LETTER
"When I think of that, it inspires me to write you a letter every day."
"I imagine you caressing my words with your white finger..."
HE ALWAYS SAYS, "WHEN YOU PLAY YOUR CELLO THE WAY YOUR FINGERS MOVE IS UNBEARABLE."
I STILL THINK HE SOUNDS STRANGE
THAT'S... IT.

I CAN WRITE A LETTER SO THAT SHE'LL BE ABLE TO FIGURE OUT IT WAS ME WHO WROTE IT

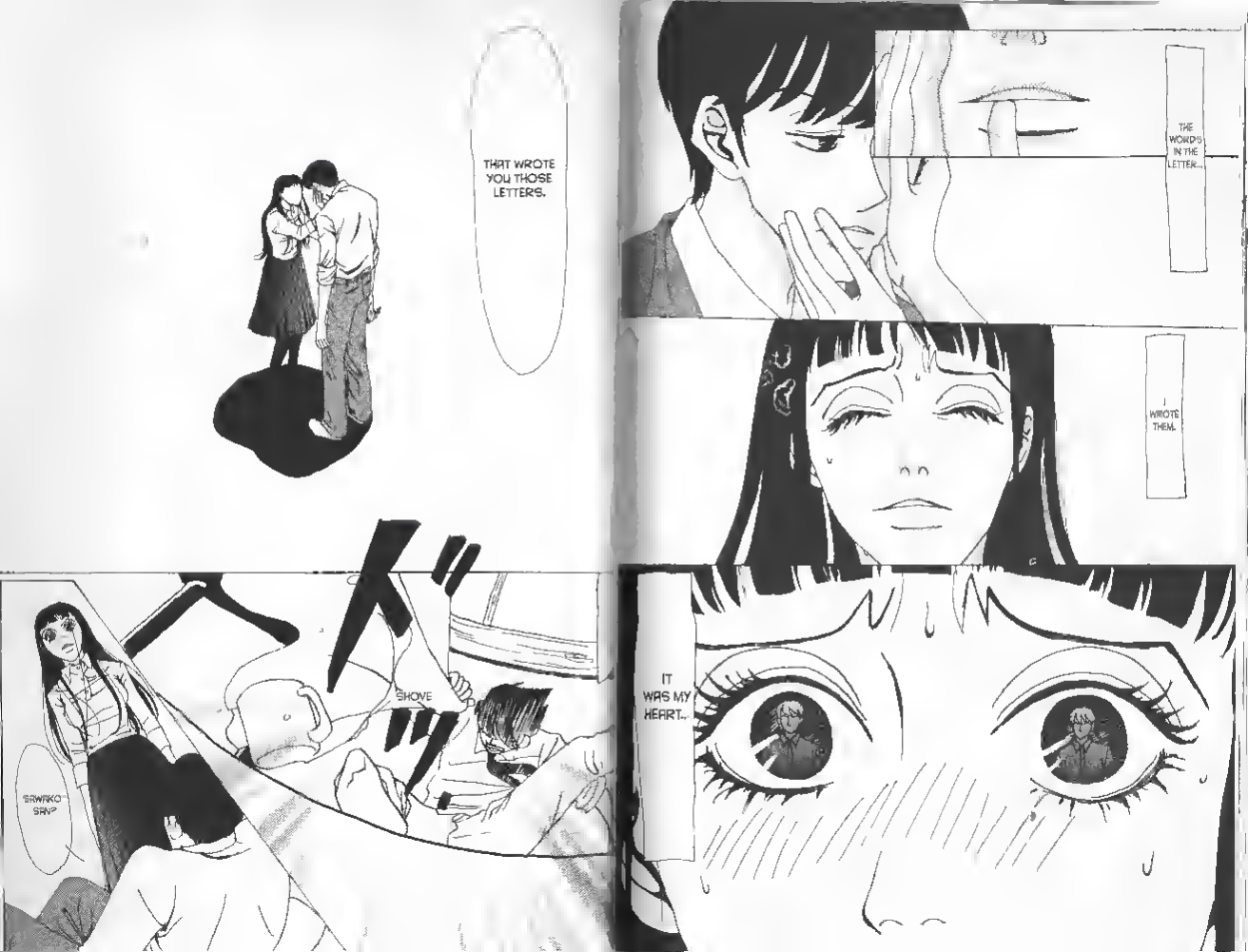


"My wish is...
for you to smile and be happy forever.
-So I was shocked when I saw you in tears."
"But now, every day I look forward to seeing you."
"From outside your window, I watched you smile and play your cello."
That's how I feel."
"I want to help you somehow and I also want to protect you.
THAT'S IT
"My days... were always the same... peaceful, but boring."
ガサッ
RUSTLE
OH, NOTHING.
HUH?
WHAT'S WRONG?
YEAH.
ARE YOU SURE?
WELL, SHALL I READ?

SHE KNOWS...
AS LONG AS I KEEP GETTING LETTERS FROM HIM...
I CAN LIVE ON
BUT...
TOMORROW...
WHAT KIND OF LETTER WILL HE SEND ME...
I WONDER...
SHE STILL ENVISIONS HIM...
SLAM

TEE
TEE HEE
THIS IS WEIRD
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT HE'S TALKING ABOUT
I DON'T LIKE THAT LETTER VERY MUCH
BUT STILL...
I'M HAPPY

TOUCH IT EVERYWHERE.
PLERSE REMEMBER MY FACE
I AM NOT THAT OTHER MAN.
THIS IS ME
THIS IS MY FACE.
!!
GRAB
PLERSE GET TO KNOW IT
MY FACE...
THEN YOU SHOULD
AH...
YOU DON'T WANT TO?
AH... WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
PLERSE TOUCH AND FEEL IT
I WANT YOU TO KNOW ME!
!
GRAB

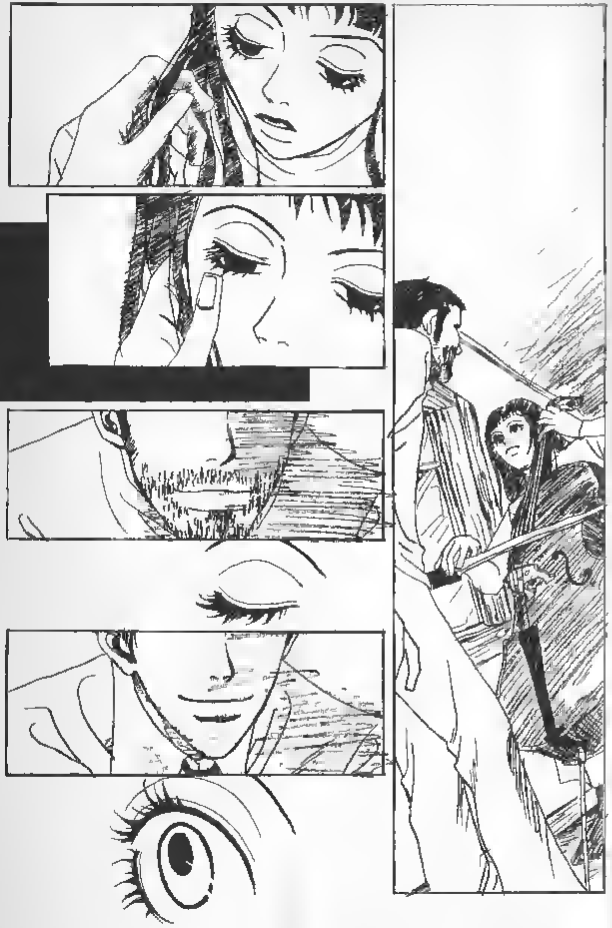

THAT WROTE YOU THOSE LETTERS.
THE WORDS IN THE LETTER...
I WROTE THEM.
IT WAS MY HEART...
SHOVE
SAWAKO SAN?

TRIP
WAIT!
WHY?
WAIT FOR ME!
HEY!
WAIT...
SWISH
!!
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
SA...
WAIT!
BE CAREFUL!
SAWA-KO-SAN!

PLEASE...
DON'T SAY ANYTHING....
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO...?
I DON'T KNOW...
I...
I....
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.
SA..
WHY...
!!
SAWAKO-SAN!!
SUP
NO!

FROM TOMORROW, YOU WILL START TO GET LETTERS AGAIN FROM THAT MAN.
OK?
I'VE HURT HER EVEN MORE.
IT'S OK..
YOU'LL BE OK.
OK??
YES.
UH..
I SAID I WANTED TO PROTECT HER
IT'S OK
IT'S OK WITH HER THAT I WRITE TO HER
"I'm doing fine. By the way..."
"How is my lover doing?"

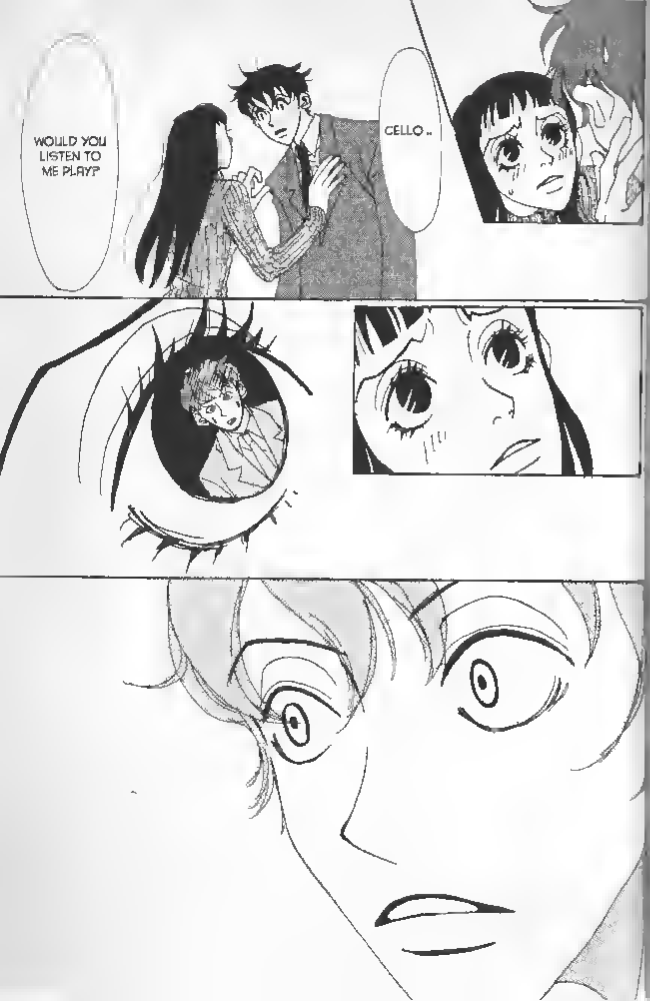
I'M SORRY..



"I'm hoping that you will envision my face every day."
"Do you know why I'm writing to you every day?"
"Only for me."
"You'll play cello..."

"I don't need anything else.."
"If you will envision my face."

" My only wish "
"That is..."


WOULD YOU LISTEN TO ME PLAY?
CELLO..

コン
KNOCK KNOCK
ガチャ
KACHA
LETTER
YOUR...
AH..
!
EXCUSE ME!
AH...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
EH..
EH!?
PAT
PAT
PAT

YES!
the end

Honorifics Explained

Throughout the Del Rey Manga books, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics, and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics--which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status--has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (e.g., "Asuna-san"), as a title at the end of one's name, or in place of the name itself (e.g., "Negi-sensei" or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many translations into English leave out these important honorifics, and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy at Del Rey not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in Del Rey Manga.

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., Mrs., etc. It is the all purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than -san. It is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word tono, which means lord. It is an even higher level than -sama and confers utmost respect.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names.

About the Author

George Asakura made her debut as manga-ka (manga creator) with *Punky Cake Junkie*, which was published in the magazine *Bessatsu Friend DX Juliet* in 1995. She gained prominence with the serialization of *A Perfect Day for Love Letters* in 1998, which has now been released as a live-action omnibus movie in Japan.

Known for her unique, edgy style and storytelling, George Asakura crosses over between the everyday and the fantastic, the hilarious and the bittersweet. Her past works include *Shonen Shojo Romance, Bara Ga Sasta, Suimitsuto No Yoru, Happy End* (published by Kodansha), *Heart Wo Uchinomese, A Piece of Cake, Karaoke Baka Ichidai* (published by Shoudensha), and *On Ponch,* (published by Shogokukan). She is currently working on the new series *Ohoreru Knife (The Drowning Knife)*.

Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction in our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Sperm-kun, page 6

Emoto is rather rude and is teasing his friend about his haircut. Someone had said he looks like Hiroyuki Ikeuchi, who is a handsome Japanese actor who wears his hair very short. Emoto then chimes in and says he looks more like 'Katsuo,' who is a character in the long running Japanese cartoon show Sazae-san. He then comments that "A sperm-kun couldn't even pierce this head." Ririko overhears this, which is a good example of why she dislikes Emoto so much.

Kokoro, page 15

The Japanese name of this book, *Kokoro*, literally means 'heart' and can be interpreted as "the heart of things" or "feeling." The book deals with a man's feelings.

Honorifics Explained

continued

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and between lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms 'kid" or 'squirt."

Sempai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as sempai. It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai: This is the opposite of sempai, and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

-[blank]: This is usually forgotten on these lists, but it's perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of license. Known as yobisute, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can also be insulting.

All Night Fuji, page 95

All Night Fuji was a popular variety show in Japan that aired on Saturday nights. It started at midnight and went all the way through the night. One of the frequent guests was Shoken.

Japanese postal service, page 143

This emblem is the sign the Japanese postal service uses. It will occasionally appear in this story.

The GS sound, page 49

"I was glad to get your reply."
"It's like rooftop too. I go there when I want to be alone and listen to garage punk and GS. (GS is the original Japanese garage punk!)"

"I go there when I want to be alone and listen to garage punk and GS. (GS is the original Japanese garage punk!)" Shortly after The Beatles performed in Tokyo, a new trend started in music. Prior to this, the emphasis was on solo singers, but the new thing was to be in a band, which was referred to as "Group Sound," or GS for short. Japan had many GS bands and one of the biggest was The Tempters featuring Shoken as their vocalist. GS bands emulated the popular English-speaking bands of the day, but not many of them gained notoriety outside of Japan.

Shoken, page 52

"Shoken" got his start as lead vocalist for the group The Tempters back in the 1960s, at only 15 years old. They had a regional hit with "Live For Today," which was also a hit in America by the Grass Roots (Let's Live For Today). He now goes by his real name, Hagiwara Kenichi, and is a star of TV and movies, as well as a movie director.

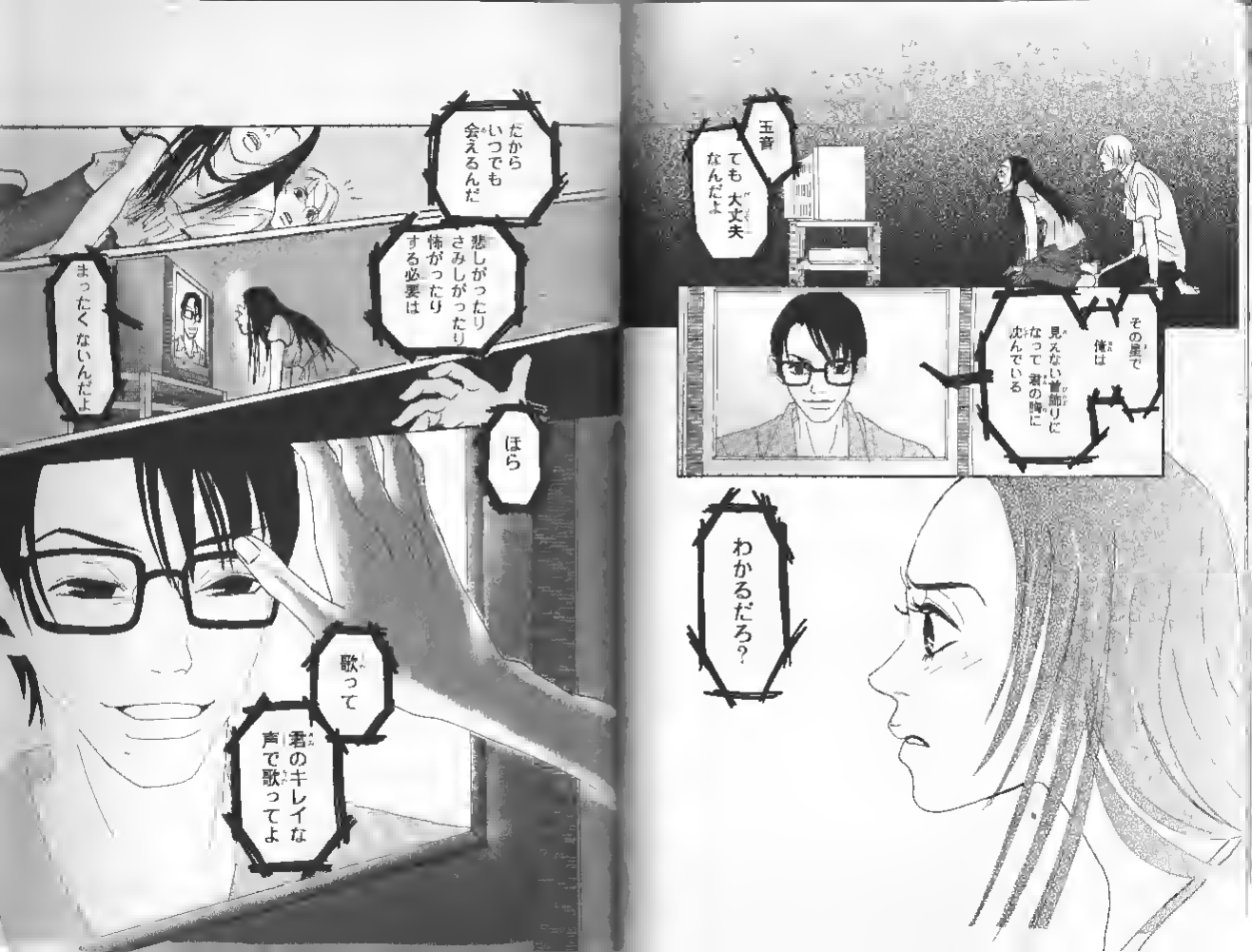
Preview of Volume 2

We're pleased to present you a preview from Volume 2.

This volume will be available in English on November 29, 2005, but for now you'll have to make do with Japanese!

The Mailman's song, page 145

The mailman is singing a Japanese children's song (Hold my hand up, over the sun—) in which you hold your hand over your eyes to block the bright sunlight. He's singing it while holding the letter up to the sunlight to try and sneak a peek at what's inside.


玉音
でも 大丈夫
なんだよ
その星で
俺は
見えない首飾りに
なって 君の胸に
沈んでいる
わかるだろ？
だから
いつでも
会えるんだ
悲しがったり
さみしがったり
怖がったり
する必要は
まったくないんだよ
ほら
歌って
君のキレイな
声で歌ってよ

遠い空にかくれた
イカルスの星よぉー
玉音
キレイな声だね
ふふっ
愛してるよ　玉音